



 COWES
WEEK 2023

NOTICE OF RACE

29 JULY - 4 AUGUST

WELCOME

FROM LAURENCE MEAD - REGATTA DIRECTOR, COWES WEEK LIMITED



Cowes Week 2023 is on the horizon, albeit rather distant at the moment! Entries are now open, with Super Early Bird discounts available until 10th of February.

The competitor feedback survey for 2022 shows that, for many, 2022 was the best Cowes Week they can remember. We got racing in every day for every fleet, and squeezed in Friday's racing before the light northerly morning breeze dropped off. We have worked hard over the last couple of years to be much more flexible and nimble as a race management team. Racing 500 boats over 37 different starts has its challenges, but we hope you enjoyed some high-quality regatta racing in 2022 and that you will join us in 2023. We remain committed to learning lessons from every race we run and have identified 47 points to consider on our wash-up list.

Feedback on courses is always a hot topic but we recognise that interesting courses of the right length, with good wind angle variety and enough turning marks to keep the bow team busy, is crucial to the success of Cowes Week. That is an area of further investment in planning and technology over the winter.

For the first time in many years we had a couple of boats sink during the 2022 regatta, and we will shortly be publishing some key learnings from those incidents. We will be bringing back the requirement for every boat to have two orange smoke flares on board. LED options, which have become popular recently, do not yet seem sufficient to do the job, and finding the crew of a low freeboard, semi-submerged boat, is a significant challenge.

Competitors are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that their boat is sea-worthy and that the necessary safety equipment is on board and in good working order. Furthermore, the decision to race (or carry-on racing) rests with the skipper and crew of every individual boat, and whilst we have parameters for all of the different fleets in terms of maximum wind strength and likely sea conditions that are suitable, as the saying goes, "One man's gale is another man's fine sailing breeze". Bigger Black Group boats ought to expect a race in winds up to 30 knots, whilst boats in White Group have a top wind speed limit significantly lower than that, of course. A "Big Day out at Cowes Week" has been part of the legend that is Cowes Week for many years, however, and we remain keen to get you out racing whenever possible.

Finally, a note for Cowes Week 2023 entrants who are taking part in the RORC Rolex Fastnet Race. If a Cowes Week race for your fleet takes place on Saturday 29 July and you do not start that race, then you will be awarded average points for the Saturday race, based on the total of all your scores (i.e. without discards) for the races started on Sunday 30 July to Tuesday 1 August inclusive.

In closing, we thank you if you were one of the 96% of people who said that you would recommend Cowes Week to your friends, or one of the 93% who said that you are definitely or would likely come back in 2023. As another saying goes, "If you like what we're doing tell your friends and if you don't, tell us!"

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laurence Mead'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Laurence Mead & the Cowes Week Team

COWES WEEK LTD

18 Bath Road • Cowes • PO31 7QN
email : entries@cowesweek.co.uk

COWES WEEK 2023 NOTICE OF RACE

Design: NGR
Photography: Paul Wyeth

NOTICE OF RACE

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority is Cowes Week Limited (CWL).

2 RULES

2.1 Sentences in italics within this Notice of Race are guidance notes for information only.

2.2 Racing will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 – 2024 (RRS), with Royal Yachting Association (RYA) prescriptions, the Notice of Race and as appropriate:

- a. For boats racing under IRC, IRC Rules Parts A, B & C except that:
 - i. The use of one spare mainsail is allowed during the regatta and need not be carried onboard at other times.
 - ii. For the purposes of IRC 21.1.5, this is a regatta run on consecutive days (so the sails on board while racing must remain the same throughout, apart from the mainsail).
 - iii. Class Rules for one-design entries, including crew limits (if any).
- b. Island Sailing Club Rating System for Performance and Club Cruiser classes.

Copies of the relevant RYA prescriptions will be included with the Sailing Instructions, available online on Friday 14 July 2023. Online documents and information are available on the Official Website at www.cowesweek.co.uk.

2.3 Safety regulations

2.3.1 Black Group (see Table 2)

Boats shall comply with the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations for Race Category 4 Monohulls except that:

- a. Boats in IRC Class 4, as defined in NoR 3.3, shall comply with CWL Safety Regulations for Dayboat Classes.
- b. Any boats that do not comply fully with the Regulations may apply to CWL for written dispensation against specific requirements. Dispensation will not normally be considered unless applied for by 17:00 on Friday 21 July 2023.
- c. Delete paragraph 5.01.1 and replace with: "Each crew member shall have a lifejacket in accordance with ISO 12402 – 3 (Level 150) or equivalent, including EN 396 or UL 1180, clearly marked with the boat's or wearers name, and if inflatable, shall have a gas inflation system and have crotch /thigh straps."
- d. Boats will not be required to carry a storm trysail nor need to be able to reef to 40% of their luff length, but must be able to reduce sail in a seaman like manner.
- e. For boats in the Sunsail 41 class, Sunsail UK will decide on the allowable sail plan for each day of racing. This sail plan will be displayed on the Sunsail Noticeboard at Cowes Yacht Haven by 09:00 each day.

2.3.2 White Group Classes (see Table 3)

- a. Boats shall comply with their class safety regulations (if any) and with the current CWL Safety Regulations for Dayboat Classes.
- b. Boats shall carry:
 - i. A marine band VHF transceiver.
 - ii. Visual means of attracting attention when in distress (See the Cowes Week Safety Booklet, including the requirements to carry two orange smoke flares).
 - iii. A suitable tow rope and secure means of attachment to enable a tow.

Copies of the CWL Safety Regulations will be obtainable online at the Official Website at www.cowesweek.co.uk and will be included in the 2023 Safety Guide.

2.3.3 All Boats

Anchors shall not be carried forward of the stem or with any part outboard, except when anchoring.

2.4 Changes to the Racing Rules of Sailing & Rating Rules

2.4.1 Changes to the RRS and Rating Rules are as detailed in the Notice of Race or in the Sailing Instructions.

2.4.2 Alternative penalties (in the form of a scoring penalty) will apply to infringements of RRS Part 2 and 31, as detailed in the Sailing Instructions for all classes except J/70s and SB20s. A yellow flag will be required.

2.4.3 At the discretion of the Protest Committee, the penalty for a breach of a rule other than Part 2 of RRS may be a time penalty or a warning with no penalty. This changes RRS64.2

2.5 Equipment inspection

2.5.1 Officials from the Race Committee may inspect boats at any time during the regatta.

2.5.2 A boat that is found to be in contravention of the safety regulations or class rules or fails to comply with any reasonable request of an official scrutineer may be protested by the Race Committee.

2.5.3 The fact that Race Officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

2.6 Tracking

For safety and race management purposes, boats shall carry and use CWL approved tracking devices, which shall be as follows:

- a. An AIS transponder. Competitors shall use their best endeavours to ensure that the AIS device is switched on and transmitting at least once every 5 seconds; or
- b. A compatible mobile device running the Cowes Week App (see NoR 5). Competitors shall use their best endeavours to ensure that their boat has one or more such devices onboard and operating.

3 ELIGIBILITY

3.1 It is intended that the regatta will be open to boats and classes listed in Tables 2 & 3, subject to the eligibility requirements listed below and in those tables.

3.1.1 CWL reserves the right to:

- a. Combine the start of one class with another.
- b. Subdivide any class. *Black Group IRC and Performance Cruiser fleets will be split during July into classes based on rating, or exceptionally for other reasons, depending on the number of entries received.*
- c. Cancel racing for any class or amalgamate classes if the number of entries is less than ten.

3.2 One-design boats

Boats in one-design classes listed in Table 2 or Table 3 will not normally be permitted to race in a rated class. A request for dispensation from this rule must be made in writing by 26 July 2023 and will be considered by CWL whose decision shall be final.

3.3 IRC Class 4

3.3.1 IRC Class 4 will comprise:

- a. Sportsboats that are not eligible for a one-design class and that comply with the following:
 - i. Holding a valid IRC rating of 1.150 or less
 - ii. Maximum length (LH) of 8.50 metres
 - iii. A displacement to length ratio (DLR) of 160 or less
- b. J/97 and J/92 boats

3.3.2 Similar boats outside those limits and types may be accepted at the sole discretion of CWL.

3.4 Ratings and rating changes

3.4.1 IRC and ISCRS

Boats racing under IRC or ISCRS shall have a valid rating. Ratings may be obtained as follows:

- a. For IRC ratings in the UK, contact the RORC Rating Office at: www.rorcrating.com
- b. For ISCRS ratings, contact the Regatta Office in the first instance.

3.4.2 New ratings or changes to a rating (except daily entries) will not be accepted after 1700 on Wednesday 26th July 2023 unless the change is:

- a. Due to an error made by CWL, RORC, UNCL or ISC. In this case, the rating shall be corrected for all races. For errors made by CWL where a rating would drop if corrected, boats must request a correction within 24 hours of registration (when they receive a list of entries and ratings).
- b. As the result of a rating protest, when the RRS rules dealing with decisions on measurement protests will apply, together with the rules applicable to the rating system.
- c. At the discretion of CWL with the agreement of RORC, UNCL or ISC as appropriate.

3.5 Crew numbers

3.5.1 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, crew restrictions may be imposed by CWL to comply with the letter and spirit of government and RYA rules and guidance (if any) current at the time of the Regatta. Subject to that, and except as detailed in clause 3.5.3, there will be no further restrictions on crew numbers or crew changes during the regatta.

3.5.2 Subject to clause 3.5.1, for boats racing in IRC classes, IRC rule 22.4 shall not apply and there will be no limitations on crew numbers.

3.5.3 A boat racing in a one-design class shall comply with her class crew limitations, as modified by the class association for Cowes Week, if appropriate.

3.5.4 Accredited journalists, photographers or cameramen who are not regular crew members may join and/or leave a boat at any time and by any means so long as their doing so does not directly affect another competitor and they play no part in the racing of the boat. This changes RRS 48.2.

3.6 Crew List

3.6.1 Prior to the start of the regatta, every boat shall provide CWL with an accurate completed Crew List using the online entry system on the Official Website.

3.6.2 Changes to crew information made during the regatta shall be notified to the emergency contact described in clause 3.7.

3.7 Shorewatch

Prior to racing, each entrant is required to supply CWL with details of a Shorewatch person who shall keep an accurate record of the crew members sailing on the boat on each day. This contact information will only be used in the event of an emergency and will not be held by CWL beyond one month after the conclusion of the regatta.

TABLE 1 : ENTRY FEES

CLASSES		'Super Early Bird' discounted entry fee for entries and fees PAID on or before Friday 10 Feb 2023		'Early Bird' discounted entry fee for entries and fees PAID on or before Sunday 30 April 2023		Standard entry fee for entries and fees PAID on or before Friday 10 July 2023		Late entry fee for entries and fees PAID from Saturday 11 July 2023	
		Whole Regatta	Daily Entry	Whole Regatta	Daily Entry	Whole Regatta	Daily Entry	Whole Regatta	Daily Entry
		WHITE GROUP	Squib, Flying Fifteen	£294	£74	£308	£77	£339	£84
Redwing, Seaview Mermaid, Solent Sunbeam, Sonar, Victory, XOD, Sonata	£360		£91	£376	£94	£413	£103	£472	£118
Dragon, SB20	£423		£104	£441	£110	£487	£121	£545	£136
Daring, Etchells, J/70	£442		£111	£465	£116	£508	£128	£578	£144
BLACK GROUP	Less than 7m LOA	£404	£97	£427	£104	£465	£116	£529	£131
	7m - under 8m LOA	£427	£108	£452	£114	£491	£122	£559	£140
	8m - under 9m LOA	£451	£113	£476	£119	£517	£130	£590	£148
	9m - under 10m LOA	£599	£150	£633	£159	£689	£172	£786	£197
	10m - under 11m LOA	£660	£165	£698	£174	£759	£189	£865	£216
	11m - under 12m LOA	£715	£179	£756	£189	£822	£206	£937	£234
	12m - under 13m LOA	£760	£190	£804	£201	£874	£219	£997	£249
	13m - under 14m LOA	£936	£234	£990	£248	£1,076	£269	£1,227	£307
	14m - under 15m LOA	£980	£245	£1,035	£259	£1,126	£282	£1,284	£321
	15m - under 16m LOA	£1,015	£254	£1,074	£269	£1,167	£292	£1,330	£333
	16m and above LOA	£1,060	£265	£1,119	£274	£1,217	£305	£1,388	£347
Cape 31	£725	£182	£765	£191	£834	£209	£933	£233	

Fees shown above are for all methods of payment.

TABLE 2 : BLACK GROUP CLASSES

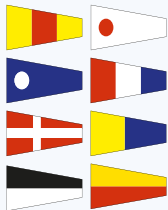














CLASS	FLAG	2A : RATED CLASSES : ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
IRC CLASSES 0 - 7	 NPO - NP7	<p>A1. Boats shall have a valid IRC rating with a TCC of between 0.750 and 1.399, and a hull length (HL) between 6.0 and 24.0m. CWL may grant dispensation to boats outside these limits at its sole discretion.</p> <p>A2. IRC Class 4: see NoR 3.3</p> <p>A3. IRC class splits will be made according to entries received and will be confirmed by 17:00 on Sunday 23 July 2023. Draft class splits may be posted on the Official Website general forum approximately one week earlier in order to allow comment from competitors.</p> <p>A4. Boats rating 0.010 or less below the lower limit of the next class up may request permission to move up to the class above and race using the lower limit rating of that class. The decision of CWL is final and not subject to appeal.</p> <p>A5. Boats shall display class numerals 0 - 7 as appropriate (see NoR 12.5).</p>
PERFORMANCE CRUISERS A - B	<p>Pink (A) </p> <p>Green (B) </p>	<p>B1. Boats shall have a valid ISCRS rating issued by the Island Sailing Club (this is free).</p> <p>B2. Performance Cruisers with a hull length between 6m and 18m will be eligible. This class is for genuine cruiser/cruiser-racer boats. Boats considered to be performance racing boats are likely to be refused entry in this class and they should enter under IRC. The decision of CWL is final and not subject to appeal. CWL reserves the sole right to accept entries outside the size limits.</p> <p>B3. The class may be split into divisions depending on entry numbers. Performance Cruiser class splits will be made according to entries received and will be confirmed by 17:00 on Sunday 23 July 2023. Draft class splits may be posted on the Official Website general forum approximately one week earlier in order to allow comment from competitors.</p> <p>B4. Boats racing in the Performance Cruiser class will not be eligible for the overall Black Group Trophy.</p> <p>B5. Boats shall display class letters "A" or "B" as appropriate (see NoR 12.5).</p>
CLUB CRUISERS C - D	<p>Blue (C) </p> <p>White (D) </p> <p>Cruising Association Class Flag </p>	<p>C1. Boats shall have a valid ISCRS rating issued by the Island Sailing Club (this is free).</p> <p>C2. Cruisers with a hull length between 8m and 12m will be eligible. This class is for genuine cruising boats. Boats considered to be racing boats or performance cruisers should enter under the IRC class or Performance Cruiser class. The decision of CWL is final and not subject to appeal. CWL reserves the sole right to accept entries outside the size limits.</p> <p>C3. The class will be split into two divisions, Blue and White.</p> <p>C4. Boats racing in the Club Cruiser classes will not be eligible for the overall Black Group Trophy.</p> <p>C5. Boats shall display distinguishing letter "C" or "D" (see NoR 12.5).</p> <p>C6. Boats shall also display the Cruising Association Flag supplied by the Organising Authority.</p>
CLASS	FLAG	2B : ONE-DESIGN CLASSES : ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
CAPE 31	Cape 31 Flag 	D1. Boats shall comply with Cape 31 class rules.
CONTESSA 32	G 	E2. Boats shall comply with the Contessa 32 class rules.
HP30	NN8 	F1. Boats shall comply with the HP30 qualifying criteria and shall have a valid IRC rating F2. Boats shall display distinguishing letter "H" (see NoR 12.5).
J/109	NN0 	G1. Boats shall comply with J/109 class rules G2. The J/109 class association has modified the class crew limit for Cowes Week to 10 crew with no weight limit.
QUARTER TON	A 	H1. Boats shall comply with the Quarter Ton class rules and shall have a valid IRC rating H2. Boats shall display distinguishing letter "T" (see NoR 12.5).
SUNSAIL 41	Sunsail Flag 	J1. Boats shall be part of the fleet owned and managed by Sunsail UK. J2. Sunsail UK will manage all aspects of entry direct with CWL.

TABLE 3 : WHITE GROUP CLASSES	
CLASS	FLAG
DARING	O 
DRAGON	D 
ETCHELLS	E 
FLYING FIFTEEN	NN6 
J/70	J 
REDWING	R 
SB20	NN2 
SEAVIEW MERMAID	NP9 
SOLENT SUNBEAM *	H 
SONAR	T 
SQUIB	NN9 
VICTORY	F 
XOD	W 

* Following the introduction of RRS 37, CWL will use flag "H" as the class flag for the Solent Sunbeam Class. Boats in the class may choose to display their historic V flag instead.

4 ENTRY

4.1 Entry Procedure

- 4.1.1 All entrants (except as detailed in clause 4.1.4) should enter online at the Official Website.
- 4.1.2 Exceptionally, entries may be made in person or by telephone to the Regatta Office, where a member of staff will complete the entry on behalf of the entrant.
- 4.1.3 Note that some basic information about the entry will be viewable on the Official Website and can be edited by the entrant.
- 4.1.4 All Sunsail 41 class entries will be completed by Sunsail UK.

4.2 Late Entries

Late entries will be accepted until 17:00 on the day prior to a race so long as they are accompanied by the full entry fee. Entries after 17:00 on Wednesday 26 July 2023 must be made in person at the Regatta Office.

4.3 Entry Cancellation and Refunds

If written cancellation of entry is received at the Regatta Office by 17:00 on Wednesday 26 July 2023, the whole fee less a £75 administration charge will be refunded. Thereafter, refunds will be made only in exceptional circumstances.

4.4 Race Abandonment or Cancellation

In the event of one or more races being abandoned or cancelled, entry fees will not be refunded.

5 MOBILE TELEPHONES

- 5.1 The Race Committee will send courses and other information to mobile telephones in two ways:
- via the official Cowes Week App, which may be downloaded by any competitor with a compatible device from the Apple App Store or Google Play; and
 - by text messages to a single mobile telephone number that has been registered to the boat as part of the entry process.
- 5.2 Mobile telephones shall also be used by competitors to declare at the end of each day's racing, either via the Cowes Week App or by text message from the registered number above.
- 5.3 The Cowes Week App may additionally be used as a tracking device (see clause 2.6).
- 5.4 If a registered telephone for text messages becomes unusable, a new number can be registered at no cost, up to 20:00 on the day before the new number is to be used.

Competitors are advised to use the Cowes Week App rather than text messaging where possible, as this provides a more comprehensive and easy-to-use service. For competitors using text messaging, it is recommended that a UK based service provider is used so that competitors receive messages in a timely manner.

6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available on the Official Website from 14 July 2023 as a downloadable pdf file.

7 REGISTRATION AND SKIPPERS' BRIEFINGS

7.1 All entrants or their representatives shall register in person at the Regatta Centre before the end of their protest time limit on the day of their first race.

7.2 Registration packs will be available for collection from the Regatta Office from 14:00 on Thursday 27 July 2023.

7.3 Skippers' briefings

There will be a skippers' briefing for all classes, details of which will be in the Sailing Instructions.

It is strongly recommended that one or two people from each boat attend the briefing. It is also intended to release an online video version of the skippers' briefing during the preceding week.

8 RACING SCHEDULE

8.1 It is intended that all classes, as detailed in Tables 2 & 3, will have one or two races scheduled per day from Saturday 29 July to Friday 4 August, except as follows:

- a. The J/70 class will have two series. The first is from Saturday 29 July to Tuesday 1 August with three races scheduled per day. The second series is from Saturday 29 July to Friday 4 August, comprising the racing from Saturday to Tuesday (scored in accordance with NoR 10.2.f.) plus one race per day Wednesday to Friday.
- b. The SB20 class will have two series. The first, the SB20 Grand Slam, is from Saturday 29 July to Tuesday 1 August with three races scheduled per day from Saturday to Tuesday. The second, the SB20 Mini Slam, is from Wednesday 2 August to Friday 4 August with one race scheduled per day.

8.2 The first Start Time each day will not be before 10:00 (see Sailing Instructions for details).

9 ADVERTISING

9.1 Boats may carry advertising as allowed by the World Sailing advertising code unless their class rules further restrict the advertising that may be carried.

9.2 Boats intending to carry advertising must indicate this on their entry form, together with the names of companies and/or products to be advertised.

9.3 As permitted by the World Sailing advertising code, boats may be required to display official event sponsor advertising.

9.4 Boats may not carry or display advertising on the forward 20% of

their hulls.

9.5 No more than 5 boats in a class listed in Tables 2 & 3, may carry advertising for the same organisation, person, product, service, brand or idea without the written permission of CWL. CWL reserves the right to refuse entry to any class of boat that contravenes this rule. *Any class considering accepting sponsorship that might be affected by this rule is advised to contact CWL as soon as possible.*

9.6 Use of Event-related still images and footage by CWL

CWL and, as authorized by CWL, its agents, sponsors, licensees and other partners may use event-related still images and footage taken at any time, which may include images of competitors, their boats, support vessels, crew and sponsors, provided that CWL shall not use such images to create a direct endorsement by or from a competitor or any person, sponsor, product or service associated with a competitor, without the prior consent of the competitor. CWL reserve the right to make alterations to images and footage to include the addition of "virtual" official sponsor branding.

10 SCORING SYSTEM

10.1 Individual Class Overall points series

10.1.1 Overall points series will be run for each class listed in Tables 2 & 3. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

10.1.2 Scoring and abbreviations will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A except as amended below.

10.1.3 For Rated Classes in the Black Group (Table 2A) when six or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When five or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

10.1.4 For White Group (Table 3) and other Black Group classes (Table 2B) the races to count for a boat's series score will be determined by CWL in conjunction with the relevant class associations and will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions. Class associations wishing to request specific scoring should apply in writing to the CWL Regatta Director.

10.1.5 For boats who start the RORC Rolex Fastnet Race 2023, if a Cowes Week race for their class takes place on Saturday 29 July 2023 and they do not start that race, then they will be awarded average points for the Saturday race, based on their total scores (i.e. without discards) for the races started on Sunday 30 July to Tuesday 1 August 2023 inclusive.

It should be noted that trophies awarded by individual class associations may use a different system of races and discards as may be determined by the class.

10.2 Black and White Group cross-class points series

For all trophies that require scoring across more than one class:

- a. Scoring will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A, except as amended below.
- b. Races that are abandoned will be scored in accordance with RRS A9(a) for the boat in question.
- c. Boats that have entered fewer than five races will not be eligible for the series.
- d. A boat's series score will be the total of her seven race scores excluding her worst score and multiplied by a Class Weighting Factor (to recognise the added difficulty of achieving a particular position in a larger fleet).
- e. The Class Weighting Factor for each boat will be: 10 divided by the square root of (N+17), where N is defined as the number of boats in her class entered for at least five races (as at 18:00 on Friday 28 July).
- f. When more than one race is completed on a day, a boat's score for that day will be the average of the individual race scores.

10.3 Additional results listing

One-designs and/or specific types of boat racing within the rated classes may be given additional daily results listings and overall points series (but normally not CWL prizes) at the discretion of CWL. Class associations wishing to request this option should apply in writing to the CWL Regatta Director.

11 TROPHIES & PRIZES

11.1 **Daily prizes** will be awarded to the first three boats in all classes listed in Tables 2 & 3. Where a class has more than one race in a day, a prize will be awarded to the three boats with the lowest aggregate score in the overall day's racing, with ties resolved in accordance with RRS Appendix A. Any daily prizes not collected by 17:00 on Friday 1 September 2023 may be disposed of by CWL as it sees fit.

11.2 **Daily perpetual trophies** will be awarded by the member clubs of Cowes Combined Clubs and by class associations, in accordance with the trophy list for each day as detailed in the Official Programme.

11.3 **Overall class trophies** will be awarded to the first three boats in each of the Individual Overall Class points series described in NoR 10.1.

11.4 **Overall Black Group Trophy**
To be eligible for the Overall Black Group Trophy boats must have won a class that is included in Table 2 (excluding the Performance Cruiser and Club Cruiser classes, which are not eligible for the Overall Black Group trophy), for which at least five valid races were completed and in which there were a minimum of ten boats entered for five or more races as at 18:00 on Friday 28 July. Scoring will be as described in NoR 10.2.

11.5 **Overall White Group Trophy**
To be eligible for the Overall White Group Trophy and the Queen Victoria Jubilee Cup, boats must have won a class that is included in Table 3, for which at least five valid races were completed and in which there were a minimum of ten boats entered for five or more races as at 18:00 on Friday 28 July. Scoring will be as described in NoR 10.2.

11.6 **The Cowes Week Overall Winner Trophy** will be awarded to the Overall Black or White Group Trophy winner with the lowest points score in accordance with NoR 10.2.

11.7 **The Musto Young Skipper's Trophy** will be awarded to the top skipper in any Black or White Group class who is under 25 years on Saturday 29 July 2023. The skipper must have registered prior to the first race sailed. Scoring will be as described in NoR 10.2.

11.8 **The Under 25 Trophy** will be awarded to the best performing boat in any Black or White Group class whose crew are all under 25 years on Saturday 29 July 2023. Boats must have registered prior to the first race sailed. Scoring will be as described in NoR 10.2.

11.9 **The Nautor's Swan Trophy** will be awarded to the top Nautor's Swan sailing in IRC class 0 to 7, using average corrected speed calculated using IRC ratings in each day's racing from Saturday 29 July to Friday 4 August, and using the same points system as for individual classes.

11.10 **The Edmund Whelan Celebration Trophy** will be awarded to the top performing bona fide skippered sailing school or charter company boat (not bare-boat) racing under IRC, using average corrected speed calculated using IRC ratings in each day's racing from Saturday 29 July to Friday 4 August, and using the same points system as for individual classes.

11.11 **The Ariel Trophy for Best Female Helm** will be awarded to the Black or White Group boat with the best result on Womens Day, Tuesday 1 August, with a female helm. Entrants should ensure that their intention to compete for this trophy is included in the entry details, either on initial entry or by registering at the Regatta Office before 18:00 on Monday 31 July. In the event of a tie, the boat racing in the class with the largest number of finishers will win. If there is still a tie, the trophy will be shared.

11.12 **The Mermaid Trophy for Best Female Crew** will be awarded to the Black or White Group boat with the best result on Womens Day, Tuesday 1 August, with an all-female crew. Entrants should ensure that their intention to compete for this trophy is included in the entry details, either on initial entry or by registering at the Regatta Office before 18:00 on Monday 31 July. In the event of a tie, the boat racing in the class with the largest number of finishers will win. If there is still a tie, the trophy will be shared.

11.13 **The Sailing Today Cruiser Trophy** will be awarded to the overall winner of the Performance Cruiser classes. Scoring will be as described in 10.2.

11.14 **The Bridgestone Tyres Trophy** will be awarded to the overall winner of the J/109 class.

11.15 **The Britannia Salver** will be awarded at the discretion of CWL to a person, boat or organisation that has, in the opinion of CWL, performed an act of outstanding seamanship, sportsmanship or benefit to the regatta.

11.16 **The Westmacott Trophy** will be awarded to the boat with the best overall performance in one of the four classes designed by Alfred Westmacott (Seaview Mermaid, Solent Sunbeam, Victory and XOD).

11.17 **The Commodores' Challenge Trophy** is open to challenges from any boat in an IRC class owned or sailed by a present or past commodore of a yacht club in Britain or the USA. Full details can be obtained from CWL.

11.18 **The Newcomers Trophy** will be awarded to the most successful entrant in either Black or White Group who has not sailed at Cowes Week before, as decided by CWL.

11.19 **The Club Cruiser Trophy**, presented by The Cruising Association will be awarded to the highest overall placed cruising boat within the Club Cruiser Class.

11.20 Solent Team Trophy

11.20.1 Teams of three boats nominated by any National Authority or Club recognised by a World Sailing National Authority or a National Authority will be eligible.

11.20.2 Each Club or National Authority may nominate one team.

11.20.3 Boats may race for only one team.

11.20.4 Boats may be from any Black or White Group class and must not contain more than one boat from a class, but must include at least one boat from each of Black and White groups.

11.20.5 Each boat's score will be calculated in accordance with NoR 10.2.

11.20.6 The winner will be the team with the lowest aggregate score.

12 BOAT IDENTIFICATION

12.1 It is the responsibility of each boat to provide its own class flags, number dodgers and class-distinguishing numerals or letters as described below. *Advice on where it is possible to purchase these items can be given by CWL on request.*

12.2 Class flags

12.2.1 Class flags as shown in Tables 2 and 3 shall be displayed by all Black and White Group boats unless specific dispensation has been given in writing by CWL.

12.2.2 Class flags shall be of the following minimum sizes:

- a. For White Group boats 200mm x 150mm.
- b. For Black Group boats either 300mm x 230mm for rectangular flags or 610mm x 150mm for numeral pennants.

12.2.3 Class flags shall be flown from the backstay, or if no backstay is fitted, from the leech of the mainsail, between 1.5 - 2.5m of the deck or clew as appropriate.

12.3 Sail numbers

All boats must comply with RRS Appendix G1.2 so that the letters and numbers identifying the boat shall be clearly legible when the sail is set.

12.4 Sail number dodgers

12.4.1 As well as sail numbers described in 12.3, all Black Group boats are required to display a sail number dodger on their approach to the finish and for at least two minutes after finishing.

12.4.2 The numerals and suffix letters shall be at least 375mm high for boats of 8.5m or greater LOA, and at least 300mm high for boats less than 8.5m LOA. The dodger does not need to include national letters.

12.4.3 Alternatively, equivalent sized sail numbers with suffix letters may be displayed on both sides of the hull, with the top edge of the numbers not more than 200mm below local deck level, in such a way and in suitable colour(s) as to be visible to the Race Committee.

12.5 Class numerals / letters

12.5.1 IRC 0-7, Performance Cruisers, Club Cruisers, HP30 and Quarter Ton classes are additionally required to display class-distinguishing numerals or letters. See Table 2.

12.5.2 The numerals/letters shall be displayed in both the port and starboard lifelines forward of the mast, so as to be clearly visible by the race committee at all times. Each letter or numeral shall be black or dark blue on a white background and shall be at least 300mm high (available from CWL).

12.5.3 Alternatively, equivalent sized class-distinguishing numerals or letters may be displayed on both sides of the hull, forward of the shrouds, with the top edge of the numbers not more than 200mm below local deck level, in such a way and in suitable colour(s) as to be visible to the Race Committee at all times while racing.

13 COURSES

13.1 White Group courses will be located in the central Solent area as further defined in the Sailing Instructions.

13.2 Black Group courses will be located in the Solent and its approaches (approximately Anvil Point to Nab Tower).

13.3 Full lists of marks will be included in the Sailing Instructions and will be available for download from the Official Website.

13.4 It is intended that all boats will be issued with a chartlet of the racing area, together with the marks to be used thereon. However, these will be diagrammatic only and should not be used for navigation.

14 DECLARATION

14.1 By entering for a race, the person in charge of each boat confirms that they agree to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern this race. In particular they confirm they have read the Notice of Race and accept its provisions and agree that their boat will conform to the requirements set out in the Notice of Race throughout the event.

14.2 If the person in charge will be under 18 years old on the first day of the regatta then a special disclaimer, available from the Regatta Office, and downloadable from the website, shall also be countersigned by a parent or guardian. This should be returned to the Regatta Office no later than 17:00 on Friday 14 July 2023*

15 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 3 of the RRS states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a. They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- b. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- c. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- d. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- e. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- g. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefings held for the event.
- h. They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to face all weather conditions that might be experienced during the event, that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.

16 INSURANCE

The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims including cover for racing in the sum of at least £3,000,000 sterling (or near equivalent in foreign currency).

By entering, entrants declare that such cover will be maintained in full force throughout the regatta and agree to allow CWL, at its discretion, to pass on their contact details to third party insurers in the event of a possible insurance claim.

17 RYA CHARTER

Competitors should note that Cowes Week Limited implement the RYA Racing Charter and that competitors will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024) or at www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter.

18 PRIVACY STATEMENT

- 18.1 The personal information you provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest.
- 18.2 Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the Organising Authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.
- 18.3 Competitors contact details may be given to other competitors with a valid need (eg. parties to a protest)